

CLAIMS

1. A method of removing hair from a live mammal, including the steps of delivering a collagen cleaving agent beneath the surface of an area of skin, allowing time for the collagen cleaving agent to cleave collagen, and removing hair present in the area of skin.
2. The method of removing hair as in claim 1 wherein the collagen cleaving agent is a metalloproteinase.
3. The method of removing hair as in claim 2 wherein the metalloproteinase is a collagenase
4. The method of removing hair as in claim 3 wherein the collagenase is present at concentration greater than about 0.001%
5. The method of removing hair as in claim 1 wherein the hair is allowed to fall out.
6. The method of removing hair as in claim 1 including the further step of inactivating the collagen cleaving agent after the collagen cleaving agent has been allowed to act.
7. The method of removing hair as in claim 3 wherein the collagenase is delivered without breaching the skin
8. The method of removing hair from a mammal as in claim 7 wherein the collagenase is at a concentration of between 0.05 and 30% w/w.
9. The method of removing hair as in claim 1 wherein the collagen cleavage agent is delivered by the application of heat

10. The method of removing hair as in claim 3 wherein the collagen cleavage agent is through a breach in the skin.
11. The method of removing hair as in claim 10 wherein the collagenase is present at concentration of between 0.001 - 0.1% w/w.
12. The method of removing hair as in claim 1 wherein the hair is positively removed from the area of skin.
13. The method of removing hair as in claim 1 where a divalent cation is delivered with the collagenase.
14. The method of removing hair from a mammal as in claim 7 wherein the mammal is human and the hair removal is for cosmetic purposes.
15. An animal husbandry method including the steps of delivering a metalloproteinase beneath the surface of an area of skin in an amount effective to depilate the area of skin.
16. The animal husbandry method as in claim 15 wherein the metalloproteinase is delivered through a puncture in the skin.
17. The animal husbandry method as in claim 16 wherein the metalloproteinase is delivered by injection.
18. The animal husbandry method as in claim 17 wherein the metalloproteinase is a collagenase.
19. The animal husbandry method as in claim 18 wherein the collagenase is at a concentration of between 0.001 and 0.1%.

20. The animal husbandry method as in claim 19 wherein the area of skin is the breech of a lamb.

21. The animal husbandry method as in claim 20 wherein the breech of the lamb remains hairless for at least four months.